'DEATH OF A FRIEND'

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BY

RAY JENKINS

SYNOPSIS

ACT I

A young Frenchman, Jean Coquet, is driving from Dover towards London. Suddenly he is overcome by sleep. He reaches forward to talk into a tape-recorder but loses control. The car crashes. Coquet is killed. Eventually Hunter hears of the accident because French Intelligence, for whom Coquet worked, begin to make enquiries about him. Meres is sent to interview porters on the cross-channel ferry to see if anyone remembers him. Callan, an old friend and colleague, is assigned to look after Francine Coquet who has come to identify her husband's body. The French are anxious that she should stay in England for a short period. Coquet had a lot of ex-OAS enemies. They were probably responsible for his death and may well still be in England. Francine's presence could draw them. Callan's flat is raided but nothing is taken. Callan leaves 'Lonely' to look after the place while he goes on Francine's hotel. She and [illegible] r[illegible]ion in which she talks of her broken marriage. During their conversation Lonely, telephones Francines's hotel to tell Callan that Marcel Latour has arrived at his flat and has announced himself as Coquet's 'wife'.

ACT II

Callan and Francine continue their conversation. It seems that their marriage broke up because (a) Coquet put his work before his wife and (b) found more comfort in Latour's company than in hers. Callan, who liked Coquet but does not like his wife, finds all this difficult to believe. Meres, continuing his enquiries at the Dover Ferry, is knocked out and wakes to find himself in a corner of the car-park. Callan asks Hunter if he can be relieved. He wants to find out what is going on in his flat. Drinks arrive at Francine's room. Callan opens the door. While Francine is bundled out, Callan is beaten up. Meres goes to Callan's flat; sends Lonely away, then calls Hunter to say that he is bringing in Latour. Callan is revived at the hotel by a relief agent sent by Hunter. He sets off for his flat. Latour and Meres get into a car. Lonely watches from a shop doorway. Another car approaches. A bomb is thrown. Meres' car is blown up. Callan arrives in time to see the other car driving away. He talks to Lonely who tells him that as well as the two men who threw the bomb, there was a lady in the back of the car.

((MORE))

DEATH OF A FRIEND 2

ACT III

Callan and Meres go to the hospital to see the badly injured Latour. Hunter telephones French Intelligence to ask if anything is known about Latour. The chief of French Intelligence says he will come over to England. This is important. Hunter arrives at the hospital. He and Callan talk to Latour. It is confirmed that Coquet was killed by ex-OAS agents, including his own wife, Francine. It is also clear that Latour's love for Coquet was not reciprocated; that, in fact, Coquet still loved his wife. Latour, struggling for a few moments of life, gives names of two other ex-OAS men, both of whom Meres has already interviewed on the Dover Ferry. They were also the men who threw the bomb and probably the ones who burgled Callan's flat. Callan and Meres go to Dover to intercept Francine and her friends. They stop them as they are passing through Customs and threaten them with French pooitical prison. They choose English justice, on murder charges.

((END))

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CAST LIST

CALLAN	EDWARD WOODWARD
HUNTER	DEREK BOND
MERES	ANTHONY VALENTINE
LONELY	RUSSELL HUNTER
FRANCINE COQUET	ANN LYNN
GILES FLOMARD	JEROME WILLIS
MARCEL LATOUR	DAVID LELAND
LAMBERT	BARRY STANTON
HUNTER'S SECRETARY	LISA LANGDON
MASON	REX ROBINSON
JEAN COQUET	GEOFF CHESHIRE
MESSMER	JOHN DEVAUT
WATSON'	LAWRENCE TRIMBLE
SISTER	MARYANN TURNER

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